

**APPROVED JUNE 28, 2022**

Montgomery County Community Action Board  
Community Advocacy Institute Graduation  
May 24, 2022  
Bohrer Park

**MINUTES**

**CAB Members in Attendance:** Elaine Carballo, Valerie Chatfield-Smith, Lisa Conlon, Denise Fredericks, Tiffany Jones, Will Kenlaw, Myriam Paul, Claudia Simmons, and Mike Subin

**CAB Members Absent:** Erika Conner, Lisette Orellana Engel, Candace Groudine, Jeffery Johnson, Danette Lawrence, Pamela Luckett, Eneshal Miller, Timothy Robinson, and Zeldia Wafer-Jones

**CAA Staff:** Sharon Strauss, Aizat Oladapo, Lorena Jarrin, and Leah Goldfine

**CAI Ambassadors and Volunteers:** Mary Bennett, Mandy Dalton, Ramata Diop, Will Hegwood, and Samira Hussein

The CAI Graduation, which was held in-person at Bohrer Park, took the place of the full monthly CAB meeting. The graduation celebrated the 21 graduates of this year's CAI program. Graduates attended monthly workshops and completed an advocacy project. The graduation included remarks from County Executive Marc Elrich; Council President Gabe Albornoz; Council Vice President Evan Glass; Councilmember Sidney Katz; former Gaithersburg City Councilmember Laurie-Anne Sayles; Betty Lam, Chief of the Office of Community Affairs, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services; and Sharon Strauss, Community Action's Executive Director. Community Action Board Chair Tiffany Jones led the ceremony, with help from CAB members Valerie Chatfield-Smith and Myriam Paul. Each of the graduates shared their personal statement, describing what the program has meant to them, their plans for the future, and their top advocacy issues.